

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## REGION 6 1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200 DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 – 2733

Office of the Regional Administrator

February 2, 2016

Mr. Vince Ryan Harris County Attorney 1019 Congress, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor Houston, Texas 7702

Dear Mr. Ryan:

Thank you for your letter dated January 11, 2016, regarding the armor cap covering the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund site. Although the damaged area has been repaired, the Environmental Protection Agency shares your concerns including the need to better understand what happened at the damaged area, and to identify what future steps should be taken.

The EPA is tasking the United States Army Corps of Engineers to conduct an investigation of the cause of the damaged area of the cap. We will request that your specific concerns be considered by the United States Army Corps of Engineers as part of the investigation. In addition, we are requesting that the United States Army Corps of Engineers recommend future inspection techniques to ensure the integrity of the armor cap. These techniques may include side-scan sonar, or other inspection techniques not currently utilized. The EPA will work closely with Harris County and other partner agencies as this process is implemented.

If you have any questions please call me at (214) 665-2100, or your staff may contact Mr. Austin Vela, Congressional Liaison, at (214) 665-9792.

Sincerely,

Regional Administrato